Special Subject: Domestic Action

COMMANDERS DIGEST

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Social Progress Sparks Program

Domestic Action Policy: People Helping People

STRESSING THE FACT—Defense Secretary Melvin R. Laird said this month that the Domestic Action program is the principal means by which the Department of Defense implements one of its Human Goals, namely: "To contribute to the improvement of our Society, including its disadvantaged members, by greater utilization of our human and physical resources while maintaining full effectiveness in the performance of our primary mission."

(DoD Photo by PHC Thomas C. Mackesy, USN)

Human progress is based upon an absolute essential—people helping people.

Since April 1969, the Defense Department has provided impetus toward this social progression by having its people help other people through a dynamic program called "Domestic Action."

In fact, military assistance offered to civilian communities that surround military installations throughout the country has been tremendously varied, personal and successful.

One example of Domestic Action is a nationwide effort called Project MAST (Military Assistance to Safety and Traffic) in which military helicopters are used to speed military medical technicians to the scene of serious accidents and evacuate victims to local civilian hospitals.

Since June 1970, more than 1,900 patients were evacuated, in response to requests by local authorities, by this new method of Defense Department assistance.

In the broadest of terms, the Defense Department has defined its Domestic Action program as ". . . that aggregation of efforts, programs and projects within the Department which contribute to the constructive development of our society."

As such, it includes individual, unit, Service and Defense-wide activities that help to alleviate local, regional and national social problems. Those sociological

and socioeconomical activities range from cleaning up the environment to helping the disadvantaged get a fresh start in life.

But, how did this whole concept of humanitarian effort begin? How does it function?

To answer those questions, it is necessary to go back to April 29, 1969, when Defense Secretary Melvin R. Laird made a special trip to Saint Leo, Florida, taking with him a prepared speech. His purpose was to address the administration, faculty and students at Saint Leo College's commencement exercises.

Mr. Laird's first reference to his new Domestic Action program was embodied in that speech. The Secretary noted, in particular, the tremendous amount of effort the Department of Defense has devoted to educating members of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Mr. Laird told his academic audience that, during his 16 years as a member of Congress, he had been intimately involved in the problems of education. And, he stressed, his involvement in educational matters had become more direct since he had undertaken his Executive Branch role as Secretary of Defense.

Of the 10 Cabinet-level departments and 15 other Federal agencies which support or conduct education, training and related programs, the Defense Department ranks as the second largest. He said that the 1968 Defense budget had set aside $2.2 billion for educational and specialized military instruction. That sum, he said, "amounts to 20 percent of the total Federal expenditure in the field of education."

During 1969, some 800,000 Servicemen and women received formal training in some kind of school conducted by the Defense Department, he elaborated Also, 160,000 military dependents attended military dependent schools overseas, and some 90,000 Service personnel received their high school diplomas while in Service.

"These facts," the Secretary remarked, "suggest something of the dimensions of the activities of the Defense Department that bear directly on the solution of the urgent domestic problems vexing the Nation . . . problems that include poverty, discrimination, hunger and lack of opportunity."

He then divulged his intent to help find a solution to some of those national problems through the medium of his new Domestic Action program.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

HUMAN GOALS

To make military and civilian service in the Department of Defense a model of equal opportunity for all, regardless of race, sex, creed or national origin. . . .

"If there is any single key that will open the door of opportunity to those who find it locked, that key is education," he said.

"In addition to the area of education, I also feel that the Defense Department can play a significant role in solving problems that affect our urban areas," he asserted. "Neither President Richard Nixon nor I feel that enough is now being done. Therefore, I have created a new Domestic Action Council, composed of high-level officials from the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Joint Chiefs of Staff and Military Departments, to insure a widespread, coordinated approach to the Department's Domestic Action program."

Secretary Laird then named five other general areas in which the Defense Department, under his personal supervision, would begin to do more toward resolving the Nation's domestic problems. They were:

- **Procurement:** Government contract awards to minority businesses.
- **Manpower:** Projects TRANSITION and REFERRAL, job-related training and employment programs to help Servicemen and women find meaningful employment when they return to civilian life.
- **Assets:** Transfer Defense plants, facilities and equipment to the civilian sector of the economy when military installations are closed or relocated. The DoD Office of Economic Adjustment, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Installations and Logistics)—OASD(I&L)—now functions as the action agency for the President's Economic Adjustment Committee, under the co-chairmenship of Secretary Laird and ASD(I&L) Barry J. Shillito.
- **Community Relations:** Programs to provide recreation and training for young people. During the summer of 1972, more than 2.9 million youths benefited from recreational, educational and cultural activities on or near military installations across the country.
- **Equal Opportunity:** Insuring equal rights and opportunities for Service personnel and civilian employees. One significant step in that direction was the establishment of the Defense Race Relations Institute at Patrick Air Force Base, Florida.

Since that day in April 1969, when Secretary Laird first announced his new Domestic Action program, monthly meetings have been held in the Pentagon by Council officials. Special monthly reports of the proceedings go to Mr. Laird to keep him informed of the current progress.

In addition, the Defense Secretary has personally visited military installations on the east and west coasts which were recommended to him as having outstanding Domestic Action programs underway.

In another follow-up action, Assistant Secretary of the Navy James E. Johnson has been named chairman of an Ad Hoc Committee to report upon recommendations for the establishment of annual Defense Department Domestic Action awards for outstanding programs by active military units. The specifics of the proposals, now under study, will be announced when final acceptance provisions have been made by the Council.

Commenting on the proposed awards, Army Lieutenant Colonel James L. E. Hill, Domestic Action Staff Director for the Assistant Secretary of Defense, (Manpower and Reserve Affairs), Roger T. Kelley, said:

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"Two years ago, the National Guard and the Reserve Forces instituted an annual awards program for units with outstanding accomplishments in Domestic Action activities. This program has been a tremendous success. We are hopeful that the adoption of a similar awards system by the active duty forces will act as another positive force toward the expansion and improvement of the Domestic Action program."

Assistant Secretary Kelley, speaking last year at Armed Forces Day celebrations in New Orleans, explained aspects of the DoD Domestic Action program accordingly:

"It isn't possible to quantify how much the activities of the Department of Defense improve the quality of American life. I know only that our military men and women do more than any other organization of American people to secure our freedoms . . . and strengthen the fabric of our domestic society.

"This . . . is no new development. Military forces, from the beginning of our history, have participated in an important way to bring social and economic progress to our country—improving transportation, conquering disease, building settlements, and, in general, establishing conditions conducive to the spread of civilization across the continent. The U.S. Armed Forces have continued down to our day to serve such purposes.

Secretary Kelley said in conclusion, "Much of this type of activity has been given the name of Domestic Action in the Defense Department's program. This program embraces the activities of the Department toward the solution of the serious domestic problems that afflict our society—often reaching out beyond its own personnel to help the civilian community."

Secretary Laird's personal feelings for the Domestic Action program were, perhaps, best exemplified during an address in Charleston, South Carolina, in August, 1972. Speaking before a luncheon group comprised of leaders and participants in the various Domestic Action programs, he praised the work done in Charleston through a coordinated effort between Charleston Naval Station and local community officials.

Mr. Laird emphasized, ". . . I take personal pride in all of the thousands of Domestic Action projects across the country. It is gratifying to see what can be done to look beyond our military establishments at the same time that we maintain full effectiveness in the performance of our primary mission. The Domestic Action program is a reaching-out to understand the communities in which we are a part. The keys to the program are initiative and imagination on the part of the military leaders to devise effective programs, and cooperation between our military and civilian communities, so that the ideas can be discussed, refined and implemented.

"After all," he summarized, "we in the U.S. Armed Forces share a basic concern for the freedom and dignity of all Americans."

Total Program Outlined

DoD Involvement Emphasizes Social Progress

Domestic Action is that aggregation of efforts, programs and projects within the Department of Defense which contribute to the constructive development of our society. As such, it includes individual, unit, Service and Defense-wide activities that help alleviate local, regional and national social problems.

The program encompasses six general areas:

- Procurement—Government contract awards to minority businesses. In Fiscal Year 1971, some 157 contracts totalling $28 million were awarded to minority businesses.

- Manpower—Projects TRANSITION and REFERRAL—job-related training and employment programs—to help Service members find a meaningful place when they return to civilian life.

- Transfer of Technical Knowledge—Project MAST (Military Assistance to Safety and Traffic), in which military helicopters are used to evacuate civilian accident victims, is a good example. By the end of 1972, some 1,900 patients had been evacuated in response to requests from local authorities.

- Assets—Transfer of Defense plant facilities and equipment to the civilian sector of the economy when installations are closed or relocated.

- Community Relations—Programs to provide recreation and training to young people. During the summer of 1972, more than 2.9 million young people benefited from recreational, educational and cultural activities on or near military installations across the country. That figure included a substantial number of residential and day camps for disadvantaged youths from inner cities.

- Equal Opportunity—Insuring equal rights and opportunities for Service personnel and employees. One significant step in that direction was the establishment, last year, of the Defense Race Relations Institute at Patrick Air Force Base, Florida.

The Domestic Action Program was formally established in April 1969 by Secretary of Defense Melvin R. Laird. He established, at the same time, the DoD Domestic Action Council, chaired by Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) Roger T. Kelley, to direct and coordinate Domestic Action Programs of the Military Departments and major Defense agencies.

Cooperation between the military and local communities goes back, of course, to the beginning of American history. For example, the Army Corps of Engineers has historically been the construction agency in related work for rivers and harbors.

Basic Guidelines

Domestic Action activities are carried out in the Department of Defense under several general constraints:

- Department of Defense funds cannot be used in support of Domestic Action activities.

- Military installations may engage in Domestic Action projects which do not affect the primary mission of the unit involved.

- Each project must be initiated,

planned and operated by the local community; that is, a community interested in a cooperative project must make the approach, and be ready to assume the burden of continuity.

DoD officials have found that working through local, state and Federal Governmental agencies who have the responsibility for "people" programs is a "must." They include such Federal agencies as the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW), the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO), and the ACTION Agency, as well as the many state and community organizations.

Secretary of Defense Laird said, in December 1971, "As we move from a war to a peace posture, there will be increased opportunities for more innovative and challenging programs. . . . There is a definitive limit to the number of young people we can support in our community relations programs. . . . Perhaps our emphasis from this point on should be directed to improving the quality of the ongoing programs."

Information concerning general program or policy matters can be obtained from the Special Assistant for Domestic Action, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (M&RA), Washington, D.C. 20301.

Information concerning specific programs can be obtained from the Domestic Action offices of the respective DoD components:

Domestic Action Officer
Department of the Army
Attn: DAPE-MPP
Washington, D.C. 20310

Domestic Action Officer
Department of the Air Force
Attn: AF/DPXOM
Washington, D.C. 20330

Domestic Action Officer
Department of the Navy
Attn: CNO (OP-09BC)
Washington, D.C. 20350

Commandant of the Marine Corps
Attn: Domestic Action
Officer (AO1C)
Washington, D.C. 20380

Domestic Action Officer
Defense Supply Agency
Attn: DSAH-WS
Cameron Station
Alexandria, VA 22314

Some Frequently Asked Domestic Action Questions

Q—What kind of support can be given to Domestic Action programs?

A—Manpower and physical resources may be used to support them, but local commanders must determine their availability, based upon military requirements.

Q—How are funds provided?

A—As DoD is prohibited from using its money for the Domestic Action program, all funds must be obtained from other Federal, state or local sources, public or private.

Q—What kind of projects do other Federal agencies support financially?

A—Youth opportunities and recreation programs are funded by OEO, VISTA, and the Department of Agriculture (Operation Breadbasket); education and training by the individual states in cooperation with HEW, including such programs as "Vocational Education Program," "Upward Bound," and "Operation Headstart"; work-performing, transportation, economic and social improvement activities through such Housing and Urban Development (HUD) programs such as "Model Cities" and the Department of Labor's "Job Corps." Assistance in juvenile crime prevention or corrective measures is provided by the Department of Justice.

Q—How is a local Domestic Action program launched?

A—A request must be made to the commanding officer of the nearest military installation. Then the program must be coordinated at the local level and implemented through Federal, state or community agencies.

Q—How is surplus property obtained for a Domestic Action program?

A—There are four ways. They are:

(1) It may be purchased from the Department of Defense at Defense surplus sales offices throughout the country.
Specific questions regarding location of these offices and procedures for sales should be directed to: DoD Surplus Sales, P.O. Box 1370, Battle Creek, Michigan 49016.

(2) It can be purchased from the nearest Property Disposal Office of the General Services Administration (GSA).

(3) Eligible tax-exempt or tax-supported educational, health and Civil Defense organizations may receive donations from the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW), Office of Surplus Property Utilization, Washington, D.C. 20201, or through the HEW Regional Representative or State Director. For general information regarding donation of Federal surplus personal property, write to the appropriate GSA Regional Office and ask for GSA Pamphlet No. 69-9591, or write to the Director, Utilization and Donation Division, Office of Personal Property Disposal, General Services Administration, Washington, D.C. 20405.

(4) Property loans may be obtained from certain Federal agencies, e.g., OEO and HEW. (See third Question and Answer above for examples of agency responsibilities.)

Q—What kind of Defense technical information is available to the civilian sector and from where can it be obtained?

A—(1) All reports resulting from Defense research and development which are releasable to the public are available through the Department of Commerce, National Technical Information Service (NTIS), 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Virginia 22151.

(2) Military specifications and standards can be obtained from the Naval Printing and Publications Service Office, 4th Naval District, Building 4, Section D, 700 Robbins Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19111.

(3) Releasable information regarding ongoing and previously performed research and technology efforts is available from the Smithsonian Scientific Information Exchange (SIE), 1730 "M" Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

Q—Can military transportation be used for Domestic Action recreation activities?

A—Private or commercial transportation facilities should be used whenever practical.

U. S. Navy

Sea Arm's Domestic Action Program Focuses on 4 Areas

The U.S. Navy's concern for disadvantaged youth has resulted in a gigantic effort to use its facilities, volunteer personnel and equipment to achieve Domestic Action aims.

The Navy's continuing individual and group involvement in Domestic Action is focused in four areas.

The four areas of activity at the Charleston, South Carolina, Naval Station serve as typical examples:

Operation Shipmate. From Tuesday through Friday each week during the summer months, groups of 30 disadvantaged boys, ages 12-17, are brought to the base. The program lasts for 10 weeks, for a total participation of 300 youths. The boys live in barracks with enlisted men and eat in the enlisted mess. While there, they are given tours of the various ships in port (generally submarines and destroyers), as well as other activities in the Charleston naval complex. Demonstrations are provided, including one by the Navy Firefighting School. Supervised recreation is an integral part of the program, and includes softball, football, archery and swimming.

Project Concern. This project, in effect since March 1972, assists the Jenkins Orphanage. The institution is funded by the city and county ($7,000 per year from each) and through private contributions. Teaching assistance is provided by volunteers who help the children in their schoolwork. Volunteer instructors tutor in reading, English and typing. Several other volunteer projects are in progress. New screens are being provided throughout the orphanage. The entire building is being repainted. In addition, Seabees are constructing a basketball court, softball field and playground.

Operation Friendship. Union Heights is a disadvantaged section of Charleston near the main gate of the Naval Station. The area is about 15 blocks long by 10 blocks wide, and houses some 3,000 people. Navy volunteers, including personnel assigned to fleet units, provide assistance in various forms. A teaching committee holds classes in arts and crafts, reading, mathematics, sewing, black studies, typing and business. Training is given in recording and filing records. A clothing committee collects and distributes used clothing to the needy. The Seabee unit attached to the base is in the process of removing three old buildings from three lots and constructing recreation facilities (ball fields and playgrounds) on those lots. The Naval Station swimming pool is open to the youths of the area, providing them with an organized and supervised swimming program.

PROFESSIONAL GUIDANCE—Under the direction of a U.S. Navy photographer, a Youth Opportunity Program youngster (right) processes slides at the Monterey, California, Naval Postgraduate School. **(Official U.S. Navy Photo)**

Summer Aid and Neighborhood Youth Corps Programs. These programs provide summer employment and on-the-job training for youth in local areas. Summer Aid is funded by the military, and the Neighborhood Youth Corps is funded by the Department of Labor. These employees (115 in Summer Aid, 306 in Neighborhood Youth) work at the Naval Station, the Naval Shipyard, the Naval Hospital and the Naval Supply Center. The nature of the work varies, but includes ground maintenance, special services, food service, secretarial, janitorial, laundry services, painting, port services and security.

Another example:

The Naval Communications Training Center at Pensacola, Florida, hosted a sports camp for boys in the Pensacola area last summer.

Each Monday, 24 local boys reported to Corry Field for a five-day youth camp which stressed understanding among youths of all races and social classes.

The Summer Sports Camp was designed to offer boys five days of sports, rap sessions, field trips and counseling. The Pensacola Sports Association sponsored seven camp sessions, allowing a maximum amount of local youth participation. Five local teachers and student counselors accompanied the boys during their activities.

Rap sessions were held with counselors, a Navy chaplain and local police officials. A drug awareness lecture was given all the youths during which human relations, drugs, religion and a variety of other topics were discussed.

After five days, the boys graduated from the camp and were presented with certificates and tee-shirts, depicting their participation in the Summer Sports Camp.

U. S. Army

Domestic Action Program Dates Back to Pioneer Days

Domestic Action in the U.S. Army is not new; it has been going on since the days of the pioneers. It just had not been called Domestic Action until April 1969, when the Secretary of Defense established the DoD Domestic Action Council for the purpose of assisting other Federal agencies and civilian communities in the solution of pressing domestic problems.

The Department of the Army has extensive human and physical resources which can be devoted to assisting the Nation's disadvantaged without interference to its primary mission. The concept is for the Army to provide human resources on a voluntary basis and physical resources when they are not being utilized by its own military personnel and their dependents. Other Federal agencies, such as the Office of Economic Opportunity, Department of Labor and Department of Agriculture, as well as private organizations and businesses, are expected to furnish the funds.

Here are two examples of Army Domestic Actions:

- **Fort Hood, Texas,** provided personnel and financial support to Camp Happy Face, an eight-week summer day camp for mentally and physically handicapped children. An enlisted man served as waterfront director and four other enlisted men operated a kitchen to feed 100 physically handicapped children. Financial support was provided by the officers and NCO wives clubs.
- Project Summertime at **Fort Devens, Massachusetts,** consisted of a weekly resident camp for boys, 12–15 years of age, and a daily nonresident camp for boys and girls, 9–16 years. This particular program has attracted the personal attention of Senator Edward W. Brooke of Massachusetts.

The Army goal is to have each military installation, active and Reserve, sponsor or support, voluntarily, at least one significant project to improve the quality of life near the installation.

A national program involved the Army's introduction of team handball. By May of 1972, after one year of effort, over 60,000 American youth were playing the formerly little-known sport.

YOUTH OPPORTUNITY SUMMER. Military cooks from the Fifth Medical Battalion serve lunch at Old Reliable Park to 150 children participating in a Fort Carson, Colorado, Summer Youth Opportunity Program. The program is supervised by Fort Carson and a local organization, Community Agencies Working Together (CAWT). (Official U.S. Army Photo)

The Department of the Army considers its Domestic Action program the finest, most innovative and the most far-reaching. Its success is due to the thousands of interested Army military and civilian volunteers who are concerned with their country's social welfare. The greatest attribute of the program is that it is a voluntary one.

There are numerous projects dealing with health, sanitation, ecology and construction. Some are specifically directed at the handicapped, the mentally retarded, or public offenders. Many are in support of other Federally sponsored programs such as the Youth Conservation Corps, Job Corps or the Stay in School Program.

Military men may participate when approved by appropriate military or civil authority. When units participate, training must be derived for the entire unit and the training should contribute to mission readiness. An example would be an engineer unit assisting in the construction of a hospital for a disadvantaged segment of a community or a hospital unit assisting in the vaccination of the community.

The diversity of the Army's Domestic Action program ranges from teaching a blind child to play a piano to a major installation's hosting a summer encampment for 5,000 disadvantaged youth. Fort Bragg has, perhaps, one of the most innovative and diversive Domestic Action programs in the continental United States.

A few of the command-sponsored

projects completed by Fort Bragg units and personnel were:

● Dobbins Heights, North Carolina. Water and Sewer Topographical Survey: Undertaken by an engineer survey team from the 63d Engineer Company (TOPO), the project started in December 1971 and was completed in June 1972. The topographical data developed is being used by the community to apply for a water and sewer line construction grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

● Dobbins Heights, North Carolina. Recreational Development Program: Undertaken by engineers from the 307th Engineer Battalion and 27th Engineer Battalion. The project was started in December 1971 and completed in June 1972. Fourteen actual work days were consumed in the construction (earth work only) of a softball field with a compacted clay infield, an outdoor compacted clay basketball court, and a compacted clay tennis court. An area was also cleared for use as a picnic grounds.

● Dental assistance at the Samuel Leonard School for Boys in North Carolina: Undertaken by personnel from the Dental Surgeon's office in May 1972. The project, conducted in coordination with the North Carolina State Board of Health and the North Carolina Department of Rehabilitation and Control. It consisted of presenting dental hygiene classes and distributing fluoride self-application kits to more than 120 wards of the State.

● Pier Building Project at Samuel Leonard School for Boys: Undertaken by volunteers from all units at Fort Bragg and engineers from the 82d Airborne Division. Working with the Southern Pines Jaycees and the staff of the school, the Engineers and other volunteers constructed a swimming pier for the boys at the school. The pier was completed and dedicated in September 1972.

● East Bladen High School: Undertaken by the 618th Engineer Company, 82d Airborne Division, from May 15 to June 12, 1972. This was the largest project undertaken during the period. Assistance included construction of a baseball field and combination football field—a one-quarter mile track on a 13-acre unimproved site adjacent to the high school in Elizabethtown, North Carolina. The project entailed 1,300 actual man-days of work, using 23 major pieces of heavy engineer equipment to move, pack and level over 40,000 cubic yards of dirt. The work was undertaken as a company training project and benefited a student body containing 58 percent of minority groups and the entire western half of an economically depressed county.

LEVELING-OFF OPERATION—An Army bulldozer clears off an area prior to construction of new buildings at the Minto Indian village, Alaska. The effort was a typical Army Domestic Action project. (Official U.S. Army Photo)

● Kiwanis Camp for Underprivileged Boys: Undertaken by the 269th Ordnance Group, drawing on resources post-wide, during the period of June 4–14, 1972. Assistance included the hosting of a camp, sponsored by the Fayetteville Kiwanis Club, for disadvantaged boys from Fayetteville, North Carolina. Fort Bragg met the complete logistical support of the camp with the Kiwanis Club reimbursing the U.S. Army for the cost of food. Also, 16 military counselors worked with the 110 boys at the camp in a variety of recreational programs.

● Hoke County Relief for the Poverty Stricken: A continuing assurance program undertaken by the 35th Signal Group and the Post NCO Wives Club at Fort Bragg, in coordination with the Hoke County Social Welfare Department. Hoke County social workers ascertain the basic needs (furniture, clothing, and kitchen utensils) of the destitute within Hoke County, the NCO Wives Club solicits the items from military families and the 35th Signal Group coordinates pick-up, storage and delivery of the items.

SPARTAN Domestic Action projects: Domestic Action tasks performed under auspices of the SPARTAN training program by personnel from the Army's John F. Kennedy Center for Military Assistance at Fort Bragg include:

● Western Carolina Center, Morganton, North Carolina: During the period July 5–28, 1972, elements of the 5th Special Forces Group conducted a Domestic Action project at the Western Carolina Center, a state facility for emotionally disturbed, mentally retarded and physically handicapped children of all ages. The project, conducted in conjunction with staff personnel from the Western Carolina Center, presented challenging situations to the patients as part of an overall therapeutic program. The training consisted of classes in basic first aid, personal hygiene and sanitation, swimming, water safety, rappelling and survival. A supervised recreation program was also conducted for 29 boys and 15 girls ranging in age from 11 to 21 years. Seven adult staff members received instruction to enable them to conduct follow-up activities. Ten men from the 5th Special Forces Group and a cadet from the United States Military Academy participated in the project.

● Havasupai Indian Reservation, Havasupai, Arizona: On June 10, 1972, work was started on a bridge project. Materials were furnished by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the labor by the Indians. They were assisted by a ten-man Special Forces operational detachment. The 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne) provided one medical specialist from June 1972 through this month, furnishing medical assistance to the Havasupai Indian Reservation. The medical specialist works as a community health specialist under the Medical Director of the Phoenix Area Indian Health Service.

● Menifree County, Kentucky: A total of 18 military personnel participated in the project. A volunteer fire department was formed and given training. More than 150 vehicle carcasses were retrieved and disposed of; 1,400 civilians were treated and immunized; and a public sanitary land fill was 95 percent completed. Equipment used—other than organic group assets—included: one 5-ton tractor, one 10-ton lowboy, one 10-ton wrecker and one 2,000-gallon fuel tanker, on loan from the Director of Industrial Operations at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

U. S. Air Force

Drug Education, Race Relations, Part of Action Program

Shortly after Secretary Melvin R. Laird established the Department of Defense Domestic Action Council, Air Force Secretary Robert C. Seamans Jr. formed the USAF Domestic Actions Policy Council with Dr. John L. McLucas, Under Secretary of the Air Force, as its chairman. Since that time, the Air Force, under the council's guidance, has developed an increasingly effective, broad-range Domestic Action program, encompassing three major program areas: Education/Training; Health/Medical; and Recreation/Entertainment.

DRAMATIC RESCUE—A young girl is hoisted into an Air Force HH-43 helicopter following heavy floods near Scottsdale, Arizona, in 1972. One of her rescuers, an Air Force sergeant, can be seen in the bushes just beneath the wheel of the aircraft. (Official U.S. Air Force Photo)

Education and Training

The Air Force has been particularly active in innovative education programs designed to combat the problems of drug abuse and racial discrimination within our society. At Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi, a drug abuse education team was formed to educate military personnel and civilian groups on the medical and legal dangers of drug abuse. The team developed a comprehensive 2½-hour briefing which includes presentations from the Base Staff Judge Advocate Office, the Base Hospital and the Base Social Actions Office. A significant portion of the briefing covers methods parents can use to detect potential or actual drug abuse and how drug abuse can be controlled and stopped.

The Air Force is also very actively engaged in "Crisis Hot Line" programs providing current, factual information on drug abuse, venereal disease, alcoholism, emotional disturbances, suicides, etc., on a 24-hour basis. Every major USAF installation has an active hotline program, with many bases sharing hotlines with the local civilian community. The Wurtsmith Air Force Base, Michigan, hotline program has approximately 40 military personnel and dependents and 40 civilians manning its hotline phones. The volunteers attend a 25-hour training program at the base education facility, studying a broad spectrum of subjects—from basic drug prevention techniques to listening techniques effective in preventing suicides. The hotline programs are tremendously successful in providing needed, factual information and a compassionate listener to solve some very real and immediate personal problems.

Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico, has been active in one of the most neglected areas of education. In cooperation with the Albuquerque Public Schools System, Kirtland provides 110 training stations in support of a vocational, special education curriculum for students with learning disabilities. The students attend school in the morning and work at the on-base training stations in the afternoon. The object of the program is to develop vocational skills for educable, mentally retarded students so that they will become useful and productive citizens.

In an effort to overcome racial discrimination, the Mather Air Force Base, California, Human Relations Council, working with various Sacramento community organizations, has conceived a Federated Community Action Committee. Members of the new committee are drawn from Parent Teachers Associations, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Concillio, the Urban League, and other groups interested in human relations and educational improvements in the greater Sacramento area. The committee was formed to detect issues and tensions in the school or community; the committee will also work toward resolving the problems. Also, the Mather Council has been working with the Folsom-Cardova Unified School District to help the student body form a Human Relations Council. The program is aimed at creating harmonious relations within the community and in averting crises.

Health and Medical

With the increasing shortage of qualified people in medicine and related fields, adequate health care is becoming a serious domestic problem. Air Force medical personnel, in conjunction with local communities, have been extremely active in supplementing the medical services

available in those communities. As a part of the long-term solution for a shortage of trained medical personnel, the David Grant Medical Center at Travis Air Force Base, California, has become extensively involved with local schools to provide medical education and experience in fields not otherwise available. The Air Force Anesthesiology Service, in a cooperative program with the University of California, is allowing third- and fourth-year medical students to rotate through the Anesthesiology Service as an approved elective. The students receive approximately 400 hours of instruction in the course. In addition, members of the base hospital staff teach courses in urology, hospital administration, hematology, and various other medical subjects, giving the University faculty an additional depth of medical experience to draw from as teachers.

In a relatively new area of medical research, the Mather Air Force Base, California, hospital is conducting a pilot, test program for sickle cell anemia. The base will initially test military personnel, their dependents and civilian employees. Upon successful completion of the testing programs, Mather plans other screening programs, off-base. Mather's hospital has also been active in dental nurse hygienist and first-aid training programs. The hospital has already conducted first-aid classes at local junior high and high schools for approximately 1,200 students. In addition, Mather has also conducted classes for "Aquarian Effort" counselors at the Sacramento Community Center. "Aquarian Effort" is a community volunteer organization, designed to help fight drug abuse.

The Air Force is also actively involved in programs to curb and control the Nation's pollution problems. Eglin Air Force Base, Florida, has been actively working with the Okaloosa County Planning and Zoning Commission in a cooperative effort that has developed a comprehensive development plan for the entire county. The plan includes provisions to improve: quality of environment, economic development, housing, human and social development, public facilities and services, and transportation. This is the first complete plan for Okaloosa County development and represents a significant first step in the community's effort to control pollution.

Many Air Force personnel are involved in personal acts of compassion that rarely receive recognition. One such effort involves an Air Command and Staff College couple (the wife is a registered nurse) who perform "personal counseling" services at a Montgomery, Alabama, community walk-in crisis center called "Lighthouse." The center provides legal counseling, psychiatric and other professional medical assistance, as needed, to troubled individuals. The results of the personal, one-to-one counseling efforts can, and do, have a very dramatic effect that can alter an individual's life and motivate him or her to become a productive member of our society.

INSIDE VIEW—Youngsters participating in a Hanscom Field, Massachusetts, Domestic Action "block party" receive basic instruction in automotive mechanics from an Air Force sergeant at the Base Motor Pool. **(Official U.S. Air Force Photo)**

Recreation and Entertainment

Air Force bases continue to provide facilities and instruction for a broad range of activities. One unique form of recreation and entertainment was a Black Arts Festival held at the Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, Colorado, last year. The festival was a first for any military academy and featured: a film festival, soul food in the cadet dining hall, entertainment by black bands, a black fashion show, a black chapel service, and a sculpture display by a black sculptor.

Also active at the Academy and many other Air Force bases are comprehensive Big Brothers Programs. The one-adult-to one-youngster programs bring fatherless boys from the surrounding communities in contact with Air Force personnel, who involve the youths in sports and cultural events. Normally, the youths also become involved with the families of their big brothers, and are exposed to a positive home environment. The exposure has had dramatic results in reorienting the youngsters' values and goals.

Many Air Force bases continue their strong support of the Scouting and Explorer programs. Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, has a wide variety of off- and on-base scouting activities. Air Force personnel not only provide experienced mature leadership for those programs, but also present in-depth tours of Air Force equipment and facilities, provide demonstrations on subjects ranging from cooking to supersonic aerodynamics, and serve as a fertile, positive environment for young minds to mature and grow.

These are only a few of the Air Force Domestic Action programs active today. Each day brings forth new challenges for the programs to solve—limited only by the problems faced and the imagination of the people working together to solve them.

U. S. Marine Corps

Domestic Action Program Covers Broad Span of Activity

Marines observe high school students during the Marine Corps' 1972 Youth Physical Fitness Competition. (Official U.S. Marine Corps Photo)

Domestic Action is not a new concept in the Marine Corps. Marines have been lending a hand to their civilian neighbors since the Corps was founded in 1775.

Those earlier, cooperative efforts supporting the civilian community were not labeled Domestic Action, but they were effective—effective because of the sincere spirit of public interest displayed by Marines toward civilian communities near their posts and stations.

The Corps' formal Domestic Action program began in 1969. It includes older programs and some new ones. But most important, the formal program is still conducted in the informal, old-time community spirit.

Toys for Tots

One of the Corps' older established Domestic Action programs is the "Toys for Tots" program, sponsored by the Marine Corps Reserve. The 25-year old program provides Christmas toys for disadvantaged children.

Domestic Action Program Statement From Marine Corps Commandant

The Marine Corps' primary mission is to give the Nation a strong, ready fighting force.

We Marines necessarily give first attention to our military duties. Yet, we realize that many non-military factors affect our Nation's ability to defend itself. One of these factors is the social well-being of the American people.

Our Corps is well equipped to help our civilian neighbors solve some of their local social problems. We feel an obligation to do this. We believe that it is in our best interest, both as Marines and citizens, to work on these problems and thereby strengthen our Nation. Therefore, our Marine commands have committed their available resources and expertise to help the civilian community tackle these problems.

Our Marine Corps Domestic Action program focuses on youth problems, especially the problems of disadvantaged youth. These young Americans need and deserve our help. We have learned from experience that they respond positively to the recreation and employment programs we sponsor for them in cooperation with local civic organizations.

This program is successful because it represents the voluntary efforts of a large number of public-spirited Marines, their dependents, and civilian employees of the Marine Corps. They have actively sought out members of the civilian community who share their concern for local social problems, and have joined with them in productive programs designed to solve these problems. This spirit of cooperative teamwork is what makes our Marine Corps Domestic Action program a success.

ROBERT E. CUSHMAN JR.
General, USMC
Commandant

During Christmas, 1971, 4,782,254 toys were given to 1,883,821 children. Twenty-five million toys have been given to 18 million children since the program was launched in 1947. Only children who go through a toyless Christmas could appreciate the impact of this program.

Marine Reservists collect the toys from both Marine and civilian contributors and play Santa Claus on Christmas Eve. They also receive help from local civic, business and charitable groups in the collection and distribution process.

Youth Physical Fitness Program

The Marines have long been known as a physically fit outfit. They appreciate the benefits of physical fitness, and are trying to pass on their appreciation to American youth through a nationwide physical fitness program.

The Marine Corps' Youth Physical Fitness Program was launched in 1958 at the Corps' recruiting station in New York City. It became a national program in 1963 when it was recognized by the President's Council on Physical Fitness.

The program is a cooperative effort among high school physical educators and Marine recruiters. The educators use a Marine Corps-designed program in their physical education courses. Physical fitness teams are formed and participate in regional meets, sponsored by recruiters in the six Marine Corps Districts.

The top three teams from each District advance to a national meet held at the Washington, D.C., Marine Barracks. The two top-scoring seniors are awarded scholarships, and the championship school gets a cash award to buy athletic equipment. The awards are sponsored by the General Foods Corporation.

The championship meet is dedicated to the program founder, the late Lieutenant Colonel John A. Dowd, who was killed in Vietnam in 1969.

Camp High Sierra

Another youth-oriented Domestic Action program sponsored by the Marine Corps is called Camp High Sierra. As its name implies, the program provides disadvantaged youth from the San Francisco area an opportunity to enjoy camping in the Sierra mountains.

Camp High Sierra was opened in the summer of 1970 under the co-sponsorship of the Mayor of San Francisco and the Director of the 12th Marine Corps District Headquarters in San Francisco. Program support is provided by the San Francisco Police Department, active duty and Reserve Marines of the 12th District, and Marine Commands at the El Toro, California, Marine Corps Air Station and the Camp Pendleton, California, Marine Corps Base.

HIKING is only one of the recreational activities at Camp High Sierra, a Marine Corps program that, in cooperation with the San Francisco Police Department, gives disadvantaged youths in the San Francisco area a chance to get away from city life for a few days. While the boys are at the camp, they enjoy fishing, camping and other recreational activities. (Official USMC Photo)

The High Sierra summer camp is located at the Marines' Mountain Warfare Training Center near Bridgeport, California. The program gives disadvantaged youth from the San Francisco area a chance to escape the city for a few days of invigorating fun and exercise.

While at the camp, the boys are led in camping, swimming, fishing and other recreational activities by voluntary counselors from the Marine Corps and the San Francisco Police Department.

Devil Pups and Boy Scouts Camping Programs

Besides supporting Camp High Sierra, Camp Pendleton has its own local camping programs for members of the Devil Pups, a Southern California youth organization, the Boy Scouts, and other youth organizations.

The Devil Pups youth camping program, which is primarily managed by the Marine Corps League, is in its 19th year at Camp Pendleton.

Camp Pendleton also manages an active camping program for the Boy Scouts and other youth organizations at special camping areas set aside on the base.

Other Marine Corps activities around the country parallel summer youth programs at Camp High Sierra and Camp Pendleton.

The Total Program

The Marine Corps Domestic Action program emphasizes support for youth programs, especially programs for disadvantaged young Americans. Like the Marine Corps, the programs tend to be keyed to physical fitness.

Although oriented toward youth physical fitness programs, Marine Corps Domestic Action programs extend a helping hand to all age groups.

Each Marine activity in the United States has an active Domestic Action program. Marines are actively lending their expertise and sharing their resources with their civilian neighbors—as they have been doing since 1775. Marines believe this to be their obligation.

A former Marine Commandant set the guidelines for the Marine Corps program in 1969. In a letter to his commanders, he wrote: "The success of any Domestic Action activity is dependent more on people-to-people contact, sincere interest, and voluntary effort than on material things. In monitoring your programs, you should ensure that they are, in fact, serving the individuals in the community who most need our help. Appropriate emphasis should be given to assisting disadvantaged youth. Efforts directed toward these youths will provide considerable long-range benefits to the individual and to society in general."

Armed Forces Initiatives—Domestic Action

DENTAL CHECK—An Army dentist at Fort McClellan, Alabama, examines the teeth of a camper enrolled in a local summer camp for disadvantaged children. Such dental care, performed gratis, is just part of the Army's overall Domestic Action program. (Official U.S. Army Photo)

TOYS FOR TOTS—The Marine Corps' annual "Toys for Tots" drive, conducted by the Marine Corps Reserve to provide needy children with toys at Christmas, started in 1947. It is now included as just one part of the Marines' Domestic Action program.
(Official U.S. Marine Corps Photo)

DOMESTIC ACTION COUNCIL—Members of the Department of Defense Domestic Action Council pause briefly during a recent meeting for a photograph. Left to right are: Army Lieutenant Colonel Irene R. Pishak, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (OASD) (Health and Environment); Navy Captain W. H. Knueven, Office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (J-1); R. Eugene Livesay, Office of the Secretary of Defense; Joseph Bennett, OASA, (Manpower and Reserve Affairs); Alan V. MacDonald, Defense Supply Agency; Army Lieutenant Colonel James L. E. Hill, OASD (Manpower and Reserve Affairs); Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) Roger T. Kelley, Domestic Action Council Chairman; Dr. John L. McLucas, Under Secretary of the Air Force; Harvard W. Powell, OASD (Installations and Logistics); Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) Richard J. Borda; Deputy Under Secretary of the Navy Joseph A. Grimes Jr.; Army Colonel Francis R. Cipolla, OASD (Public Affairs); Stephen J. Hadley, OASD (Comptroller); and Navy Captain Gordon H. Smith, Office of the Director of Defense Research and Engineering.
(Official DoD Photo)

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